



Borough of Rawtenstall

ANNUAL REPORT

1968

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND

Chief Public Health Inspector

HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE

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COUNCILLOR MRS. F. M. PROCTER

Vice Chairman

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BOROUGH OF RAWTENSTALL

STAFF

Medical Officer of Health

T. S. JONES, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector

C. CUNLIFFE, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector

L. T. SIMPSON, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspectors

A. H. FISHER, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., O.N.C. (Building)

A. HALLIWELL, M.A.P.H.I.

Clerks

MRS. E. PINCHBECK

MISS M. HARGREAVES

To the Mayor and Members of the Rawtenstall Borough Council:

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for 1968 on the health of the residents of the town.

It is with regret I report that once again the population of the Borough has declined over the last year to the extent of 760 persons. There is some slight consolation to be gathered from the fact that the number of births was very much the same as the previous year, but because of the declining population this has meant a slight increase in the birth rate. It is very pleasing to note that there were only three infant deaths and no maternal deaths. All the infant deaths took place under the age of one week, so that in all probability there was very little hope of saving these infants.

The total number of deaths from all causes decreased slightly, but your attention is drawn to the fact that the major causes of death are still - Malignancy, 56; Heart and Circulatory disease accounting for 215; Pneumonia and Bronchitis, 23.

Another interesting aspect is the fact that approximately half of the deaths occurred in persons over the age of 75, which is an indication of the fact that the population in the town is an ageing one, and every effort should be made to attract young persons and young families to come and live in the area.

Your attention is drawn to the table on page 11 where it will be noted, in comparing with previous years, the marked drop in the number of cases of Measles notified, and as time goes on this could well become even less in the next few years. It is also worth noting that the number of cases of Infective Hepatitis seems to be on the increase. It would appear that no sooner is one disease brought under control than something new seems to come to the surface.

It is only when a death occurs from an infectious disease such as Diphtheria or Poliomyelitis, especially if this occurs in a Continental holiday resort, that the public at large rises out of its apathy to demand protection for children and adults who may be holidaying at such a resort. It is only by continuous education that parents could be made to realise that these diseases although dormant, unless adequate protection is offered to young children and adults, are always liable to recur when least expected.

I am very pleased to record that the creation of smoke control areas to cover the whole of the town has now been given the go-ahead. The highest bronchitis rates in the world are found in Britain, and the highest of these are in our larger and smokier towns. In this respect we cannot feel complacent at the level of smoke pollution which is regularly recorded during the winter months in Rawtenstall. There are smoky towns abroad, but the raw coal open fire is peculiar to our own country. The principal effect of creating a smoke control area will be to prevent the burning of coal on open fires.

The Medical Press, which is one of the leading journals in the medical world, has said recently: "Interest in smoke abatement is becoming one of the recognised hall-marks of the man or woman with a practical social conscience".

I fully concur with this sentiment and I sincerely hope the citizens of Rawtenstall will realise the benefits which will accrue from the smoke control work which is to be carried out. If we are to attract people from outside the Borough the clean air policy is a necessary part of the whole of the rehabilitation of the town. It seems evident that much work of this nature will occur in the next few years.

The Council should still pursue the idea of providing one bedroomed units to fulfil the ever growing demand from the elderly and handicapped population. Schemes afoot to convert existing property on these lines should be pursued with the utmost vigour.

Finally I take this opportunity of thanking members of the Health and Housing Committee, the Officers of the Corporation and the Staff of the Health Department for their unstinted support and co-operation at all times.

Yours sincerely,

T. S. JONES

Medical Officer of Health.

S E C T I O N A

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

GENERAL SUMMARY

The Registrar General's estimated population figures for mid year 1968 was 21,870. The adjusted birth rate was 15.4 per 1,000 of the population, compared with the national rate of 16.9. The adjusted death rate was 14.1 per 1,000 of the population compared with the national rate of 11.9.

The infant mortality rate was 10.0 per 1,000 live births compared with the national rate of 18.0.

There were three infant deaths; all occurred in the first four weeks of life. There were no maternal deaths.

There were forty cases of infectious diseases notified. The district was apparently completely free from diphtheria and poliomyelitis.

Milk and public water supplies gave satisfactory results on sampling, except that organisms causing undulant fever were present in nine milk samples involving four farms.

Discretionary and Standard Grants for the improvement of houses were approved in 94 cases.

STATISTICS

Area in acres	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9,528
Number of Inhabited Houses - according to the Rate Books	..										8,430
Number of Inhabited Houses - Census 1931	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8,079
Rateable Value	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	£608,378
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	£2,360
Population - Registrar General's Estimate (Mid-year 1968)	..										21,870
Population - Census 1931	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	28,575
Population - Census 1951	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	25,426
Population - Census 1961	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	23,869

BIRTHS

								<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Live Births	(Legitimate	90	00	00	00	00	00	143	133	276
	(Illegitimate		00	00	00	00	00	16	14	30
	(
	(Total	00	00	00	00	00	00	159	147	306

Still Births	(Legitimate	00	00	00	00	00	00	5	3	8
	(Illegitimate		00	00	00	00	00	1	1	2
	(
	(Total	00	00	00	00	00	00	6	4	10

DEATHS

Infantile	(Legitimate	00	00	00	00	00	00	2	-	2
	(Illegitimate		00	00	00	00	00	1	-	1
	(
	(Total	00	00	00	00	00	00	3	-	3

Maternal	(Puerperal Sepsis	00	00	00	00	00	00		-	-
	(Other Maternal Causes		00	00	00	00	00		-	-

Neo-natal Mortality - infants under four weeks of age 00 2 1 3

Total number of Deaths from all Causes 00 00 00 172 173 345

Live Birth Rate, per 1,000 Population	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	14.0
Adjusted Birth Rate, per, 1,000 Population	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	15.4
Stillbirths, rate per 1,000 total births	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	32
Infantile Mortality, rate per 1,000 live births	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	10
Maternal Mortality, rate per 1,000 total births	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	-
Neo-natal Mortality, rate per 1,000 live births	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	10
Perinatal Mortality, rate per 1,000 total births	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	41
Early Neo-natal Mortality, rate per 1,000 live births	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	10
Death Rate, per 1,000 Population	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	15.8
Adjusted Death Rate, per 1,000 Population	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	14.1
Death Rate from Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	0.09
Death Rate from Cancer	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	2.56

ENGLAND AND WALES

Live Birth Rate, per 1,000 Population	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	16.9
Death Rate, per 1,000 Population	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	11.9
Infantile Mortality Rate, per 1,000 Live Births	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	18.3
Neo-natal Mortality Rate, per 1,000 Live Births	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	12.4

CAUSE OF DEATH	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Tuberculosis of Respiratory system	2	-	2
Malignant Neoplasm - Stomach	4	8	12
Malignant Neoplasm - Lung, Bronchus	14	1	15
Malignant Neoplasm - Breast	-	4	4
Malignant Neoplasm - Uterus	-	2	2
Leukaemia	2	1	3
Other Malignant Neoplasms, etc.	11	9	20
Diabetes Mellitus	1	1	2
Mental Disorders	-	1	1
Meningitis	-	1	1
Other Diseases of Nervous System, etc.	-	2	2
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	-	1	1
Hypertensive Disease	2	4	6
Ischaemic Heart Disease	57	43	100
Other Forms of Heart Disease	6	20	26
Cerebrovascular Disease	24	46	70
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	7	5	12
Influenza	1	-	1
Pneumonia	6	7	13
Bronchitis and Emphysema	10	1	11
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	1	-	1
Peptic Ulcer	2	1	3
Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	2	2	4
Cirrhosis of Liver	-	1	1
Other Diseases of Digestive System	1	1	2
Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	2	3
Other Diseases, Genito-urinary system	1	-	1
Diseases of Musculo-skeletal system	1	-	1
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc.	1	-	1
Other causes of Perinatal Mortality	2	-	2
Motor Vehicle Accidents	3	2	5
All Other Accidents	9	5	14
Suicide and Self-inflicted Injuries	1	2	3
TOTALS	172	173	345

VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE BOROUGH

Year	Popu= lation	Death Rate per 1,000	Birth Rate per 1,000 Population			Infant Mort. per 1,000 Live Births	Actual Still Births	Maternal Death Rate per 1,000 Total Births
			Actual		All Births			
			Leg.	Illeg.				
1968	21,870	15.8	276	30	14.0	10	10	-
1967	22,630	15.6	285	25	13.7	23	5	3.17
1966	22,950	14.8	276	20	14.2	27	7	-
1965	23,290	15.5	315	37	16.6	22	9	-
1964	23,510	14.1	328	26	16.7	28	5	-
1963	23,830	16.5	373	24	16.7	18	12	-
1962	23,860	15.2	368	25	16.5	28	4	-
1961	23,910	15.6	340	22	15.1	8	6	-
1960	23,970	14.8	355	19	15.6	32	6	-
1959	24,030	17.4	306	15	13.4	28	7	-
1958	24,230	15.7	319	12	13.7	18	12	2.92
1957	24,430	17.0	317	19	13.8	15	6	-
1956	24,650	14.4	312	17	13.3	15	8	-
1955	24,840	16.9	324	10	13.4	33	11	-
1954	24,900	16.1	329	9	13.6	30	4	2.92
1953	24,950	21.7	339	13	14.1	23	9	2.77
1952	25,140	14.0	319	24	13.6	32	8	2.85
1951	25,320	16.8	322	12	13.2	33	11	-
1950	25,350	15.5	339	16	14.0	37	7	2.76
1949	25,220	15.4	368	18	15.3	28	3	-
1948	25,140	14.2	389	19	16.2	48	13	3.93
1947	24,630	15.3	486	9	20.0	58	11	2.38
1946	24,300	14.2	365	23	15.9	35	15	7.35
1945	23,000	17.3	305	21	14.1	55	10	5.95
1944	23,630	15.5	386	16	17.3	57	9	4.86
1943	23,630	15.6	323	15	14.3	18	8	2.89
1942	26,030	12.6	307	10	12.9	35	18	-
1941	25,770	14.8	294	8	11.7	47	17	8.92
1940	26,030	14.8	274	5	10.7	47	12	-
1939	26,810	14.1	269	11	10.4	60	7	3.48
1938	27,070	14.0	311	10	11.8	62	12	6.00
1937	27,300	15.1	257	9	9.7	71	11	7.22
1936	27,710	14.4	323	12	12.0	59	20	-
1935	27,940	13.3	263	12	9.8	50	22	-
1934	28,020	12.4	340	17	12.7	78	12	2.71
1933	28,130	13.8	270	13	10.0	56	19	3.31

S E C T I O N B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

The County Council is responsible for the following local health services which are administered under the Divisional Health Service Scheme: Ambulance, District Nursing, Midwifery and Maternity and Child Welfare Services.

The following matters are the responsibility of the Borough Council: control of infectious diseases, provision of suitable water supplies, control of cleansing and disposal of refuse, inspection of all food and food preparing premises including the inspection of all meat carcasses at private slaughter-houses, sampling of food stuffs (milk, ice cream, etc.) for bacteriological examination, sanitary accommodation to houses, factories, shops and other premises, inspection of houses with regard to fitness for human habitation, statutory nuisances, rodent control, offensive trades, smoke abatement and many other matters concerned with environmental health.

Hospital facilities are now under the Regional Board and Management Committees and patients are admitted without regard to local boundaries.

The examination of pathological specimens and milk and water samples is undertaken without charge by the Public Health Laboratory Service at Withington Hospital, West Didsbury, Manchester 20.

SECTION C.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

The number of children who completed a full course of primary immunisation against Diphtheria, Whooping cough, Tetanus and Poliomyelitis and Measles during 1968 is shown by the following table:-

	PRIMARY - BY YEAR OF BIRTH						
	1968	1967	1966	1965	1961-64	Others under 16	Total
Diphtheria	87	116	18	1	27	-	249
Whooping cough	87	115	16	1	5	-	224
Tetanus	87	116	18	1	27	-	249
Poliomyelitis	53	154	21	5	17	1	251
Measles	-	5	2	8	17	2	34

The number of children who were given reinforcement injections during 1968 is as follows:

REINFORCEMENT - BY YEAR OF BIRTH

	1967	1966	1965	1961-64	Others under 16	Total
Diphtheria	44	87	21	279	22	453
Whooping cough	43	85	19	54	-	201
Tetanus	44	87	21	281	30	463
Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	54	-	54

TABLE SHOWING NUMBER OF CORRECTED CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) NOTIFIED DURING EACH YEAR FROM 1959 TO 1968

DISEASE	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	20	17	22	4	1	2	1	1	1	3
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enteric Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Primary Pneumonia	29	27	29	8	8	11	5	20	2	2
Acute Influenzal Pneumonia	12	-	2	1	3	-	1	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cerebro-spinal Fever	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Polio-encephalitis	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Encephalitis Lethargica	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	38	29	2	30	3	1	21	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	1
Measles	142	272	331	13	222	417	73	387	43	12
Whooping Cough	24	12	3	-	14	21	2	-	11	1
Malaria - Contracted Abroad-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	-
Food Poisoning	8	3	1	-	1	-	-	2	1	-
Infective Hepatitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	21
TOTALS	273	360	395	56	253	453	104	410	69	40

BACTERIOLOGICAL AND PATHOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS

The following table shows the results of bacteriological and pathological examinations during the year.

<u>Details of Examinations</u>	<u>Positive</u>	<u>Negative</u>
Salmonellae	-	2
Shigellae	-	2

TUBERCULOSIS

There were five new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis notified and one new case of non-pulmonary tuberculosis. Enquiries are made in every case about the source of the infection, and family and other close contacts of the patient are examined.

At the beginning of the year there were thirty-six cases of tuberculosis on the register. Six cases were added and four cases taken off the register, leaving a total of thirty-eight cases on the register at the end of the year. The following table gives an analysis of the cases on the register during the year.

PARTICULARS OF CASES ON REGISTER DURING 1968

	PULMONARY			NON-PULMONARY			TOTAL PULMONARY AND NON-PULMONARY		
	M.	F.	TOTAL	M.	F.	TOTAL	M.	F.	TOTAL
No. of cases on register at beginning of year	19	11	30	6	-	6	25	11	36
No. of cases added to register during year	3	2	5	-	1	1	3	3	6
No. of cases removed from register during year:									
(a) Died	2	1	3	-	-	-	2	1	3
(b) Left district	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	1
(c) Recovered	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
(d) Diagnosis not confirmed	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
No. of cases remain-on register at end of year	19	12	31	6	1	7	25	13	38

The following table gives the age groups of new cases taken on the register and deaths of cases removed from the register during 1968.

AGE GROUP	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
Under 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 - 14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 19	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
20 - 24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 34	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 44	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
45 - 54	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 - 64	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Over 65	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
-	3	2	-	1	2	-	-	-

DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS, 1949 - 1968

	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Total
1949	9	-	9
1950	8	-	8
1951	7	1	8
1952	7	-	7
1953	6	-	6
1954	7	-	7
1955	8	-	8
1956	-	-	-
1957	4	-	4
1958	2	-	2
1959	3	-	3
1960	2	-	2
1961	3	1	4
1962	-	-	-
1963	1	-	1
1964	-	1	1
1965	2	-	2
1966	2	-	2
1967	-	-	-
1968	2	-	2

S E C T I O N D

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

To the Chairman and Members of the Health and Housing Committee:

Madam Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present, in conjunction with the Medical Officer of Health, my Annual Report for 1968. The report reviews work carried out by your Public Health Inspectors during the calendar year, except in so far as the report on Public Cleansing covers the financial year up to the 31st March 1969. This introductory letter briefly comments on certain significant aspects of the year's events which are more detailed in the report, with liberty taken to bring up to date certain items in order to be more topical.

Although it was not possible to fulfil the programmed work during my absence from work for part of the year, 1968 was notable for the reviews of policy undertaken which affected many aspects of the Department's work. These may be highlighted under the various subject headings as follows, but each is the subject of more detailed comment in the text of the report.

Housing

The report refers to the re-appraisal made of housing requirements in the Borough. Decisions made by the Committee after full consideration not only affected the future Council house building programme, but also the current programmes which were in hand to deal with the clearance or improvement of sub-standard property. Although the clearance of unfit houses is to be retarded, the improvement of back-to-back property scheduled for conversion is to be expedited. The exercise involved in this latter programme, which is now under way, will not be easy, and many difficult technical and social problems will have to be resolved. It is hoped to have the closest co-operation throughout with affected owners and occupiers.

One also looks forward with eagerness to the implementation of proposals to deal with the improvement of houses AND their environment on an area basis. Existing legislation under the Housing Act 1964 has proved inadequate, and, in any case, did not enable urban renewal to take place in its fullest sense. The Government's selection of Rawtenstall as one of the two towns in north east Lancashire where a pilot study is to be carried out with consultative advice is most welcome. It should provide useful information to us in this most important work, and be a further step towards the re-habilitation of the town so as to wholly discard eventually the unfortunate legacy of the Industrial Revolution.

Smoke Control Areas

It is pleasing to record that the Council now feel that the time is opportune, despite present financial stringencies and the exclusion from "black area" classification, to proceed with the creation of smoke control areas. The need for such action has been pressed in a number of past annual reports, and it is unfortunate that when we are able to proceed the Ministry, on financial grounds, is unable to

permit us to proceed as rapidly as we would like. One hopes this decision is of a temporary character only.

Public Cleansing

Reference is made in the body of the report to the comprehensive review which was made of refuse storage and collection problems following publication of the Government's Works Party Report.

Staffing

Development of meat inspection work over the years as almost a full time job, and the anticipated increased work in connection with the creation of smoke control areas and improvement areas, called for a staff review. It was decided to appoint an authorised meat inspector in lieu of filling the vacant post of pupil public health inspector.

It is usual in these reports for me to record my thanks for the conscientious and unstinting service given by a capable and loyal staff and body of employees. In doing so again I would particularly like on this occasion to express my appreciation to the staff and foreman for maintaining so well the functions of the Department during my prolonged absence from work.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

C. CUNLIFFE

Chief Public Health Inspector.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCE

WATER SUPPLY

1. PUBLIC SUPPLY

Since the 1st April 1963 Bolton Corporation has been the statutory water undertaking for the area and serves 8,737 houses in the town, all being directly piped. One hundred and twenty-nine new houses and ten existing houses were connected to the public supply during the year. This involved the laying of an additional 571 yards of water main to serve new houses, and 661 yards of new water main to existing ones. This latter work was mainly involved with schemes to provide separate water services upon which comment is made later.

Upland surface water reservoirs at Clowbridge, Greenfold and Clough Bottom, all of which are chlorinated and filtered, provide the source for the main public supply. Owing to certain waters being derived from peaty moorlands, there is a liability to plumbo-solvency and the water is lime-treated to overcome this. From the tests made after treatment the water was seen to have no significant plumbo-solvent action. The Undertaking reports that during the year 684 samples of raw water were subject to bacteriological examination and partial analysis, and 7 to full chemical analysis. In addition 1,416 samples of filtered and treated water received bacteriological examination and partial chemical analysis, and 9 full chemical analysis. The results showed that the filtered and treated water was of a satisfactory quality.

No special action was required to be taken in respect of any form of contamination. The average natural fluorine content of water supplied to the Rawtenstall area is approximately 0.30 parts per million.

Implementation of the powers contained in Section 96 of the Housing Act 1964 continued to bring a satisfactory response by giving encouragement to owners of property unsatisfactorily served by common water service pipes to provide separate services. The Committee pay the Water Undertaking's cost in connecting an external stop tap to the water main up to a maximum of £12 10s. including road re-instatement charges. Owners are responsible for their plumbers' cost of work from the external stop tap into the house. One hundred and one applications for financial assistance were approved during the year giving a total of 518 applications approved during the four years operation of the scheme.

2. PRIVATE SUPPLIES

The demolition of 2 houses formerly served by private water supplies and the conversion of 10 houses to the public supply reduced the number of houses on private supply to 336. Of these 221 are in isolated areas remote from public mains.

There are now only 68 houses still outstanding within reasonable reach of public water mains and not affected by clearance schemes.

During the year the Bolton Corporation Waterworks Department were requested to submit a scheme for the laying of new water mains to 15 houses in Dean Village which will involve the provision of "booster" plant. This scheme is tied up with a general scheme to improve the properties by the provision of modern amenities in addition to effecting necessary repairs.

Last year 4 samples were collected all of which were unsatisfactory.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The sewerage scheme is on the separate system. The sewage disposal plant is situated in the neighbouring town of Haslingden and is controlled by the Haslingden, Rawtenstall and Bacup Outfall Sewage Board. The plant has been inadequate for some time and extensive alterations involving the expenditure of over one million pounds are in progress. These are hoped to be completed by October 1969.

128 new houses have been connected to the sewerage system during the year. Construction of the Fold relief sewer was commenced during the year by completing the first stage of renewal of the main sewer in Burnley Road. 169 houses are not on the water carriage system, but the majority of these are outlying farms and cottages not connected by reason of their isolation

There were 85 inspections made in connection with drainage defects and 305 complaints of blocked drains and closets were dealt with by the Department during the year. The employment of a man for the prompt release of blocked drains provides a valuable service, and complaints are normally dealt with within 24 hours of receipt.

The expeditious procedure enabled by the Public Health Act 1961 dealing with blocked and defective drains is delegated to the Chairman and Vice Chairman. Similar delegation for streamlining procedure exists in connection with the Public Health Act 1936 in respect of Section 39 (drains, eaves gutters, rainwater pipes etc), Section 44 - 45 (defective sanitary conveniences), and Section 93 (nuisances).

RIVERS AND STREAMS

The Rivers Irwell and Limy Water are polluted by industrial premises in the area, although the latter has been appreciably improved since the closure of a factory in the town which produced a particularly offensive effluent. The other tributary to the River Irwell - Whitewell Brook, which at one time was heavily polluted, is much improved and fishing takes place over an appreciable length.

Completion of the re-constructed Sewage Works should enable more trade effluent to be discharged via the sewer and thus reduce the pollution of the rivers which for so long has been a major sanitary requirement of the district.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION

Number of privy middens	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	nil
Number of closets attached to these middens	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	nil
Number of pail closets	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	155
Number of dry ashpits (exclusive of middens)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	nil
Number of waste water closets	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,101
Number of fresh water closets	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8,161
Number of portable receptacles for refuse	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9,337

Progress continues to be made in converting or abolishing the insanitary waste water closet which for so long has been a feature of the town's sanitary accommodation. Forty-five conversions were carried out, 20 through the Council's scheme of contribution whereby £15 is granted for each waste water closet converted, 24 by way of discretionary or standard grants, and one privately.

There still remain 1,101 waste water closets in the town. Approximately 672 waste water closets are to be found at properties with an expectancy of life of more than 15 years.

The Council make a grant of £15 towards the cost of converting waste water closets, and will pay one half of approved costs for pail closet conversions, including in the remote areas the provision of a proper septic tank. Since the Council's scheme was instituted in May 1952 applications have been approved for the conversion of 54 pail closets and 1,440 waste water closets. Grants approved total £1,530 in respect of pails and £14,826 in respect of waste water closets, the scheme being financed out of loan.

The outstanding houses served by pails, collected by the department, can be classified as follows:

Category	Class of Property		Total
	Reasonable Life	Due for Demolition	
1. Pails within 100 ft. distance of sewer and water supply	-	2	2
2. Pails within reasonable distance but some sewer extension required	8	4	12
3. Pails requiring appreciable sewer extension or water supply	5	-	5
4. Pails in remote areas unlikely to be sewered	49	45	94
Totals	62	51	113

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTIONS DURING 1968

The following table gives the number of inspections made by the Public Health Inspectors during the year.

<u>SANITARY ADMINISTRATION</u>	<u>Primary Visits</u>	<u>Re- Visits</u>	<u>Totals</u>
Air Pollution	290	2	292
Cleansing and Salvage	151	13	164
Disinfection	-	-	-
Drainage and Sewerage	57	28	85
Factories with Mechanical Power	-	-	-
Infectious Diseases	1	1	2
Keeping of Animals	15	10	25
Nuisances (Miscellaneous)	50	16	66
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises	53	10	63
Public Conveniences	6	-	6
Refuse Accommodation	273	97	370
River Pollution	-	-	-
Rodent Control	16	5	21
Sanitary Accommodation	46	14	60
Schools	-	-	-
Smoke Observations	10	-	10
Verminous Premises	3	-	3
Water Sampling	1	-	1
Water Supplies (private)	8	1	9
Water Supplies (public)	23	4	27
Civic Amenities Act 1967	45	53	98
Tents, Vans and Sheds	1	-	1
Offensive Trades	3	-	3
Caravan Site	1	-	1
Smoke Control Areas	5	-	5
<u>HOUSING ADMINISTRATION</u>			
Dwelling house repairs - H.A.	35	102	137
Dwelling house repairs - P.H.A.	58	34	92
Enquiries (Miscellaneous)	23	-	23
Improvement Grants	157	6	163
Rent Act 1957	-	-	-
Survey	104	-	104
Overcrowding	2	1	3
<u>FOOD ADMINISTRATION</u>			
Diseases of Animals Act	1	1	2
Food Inspection	12	2	14
Food Premises - Bakehouses	6	2	8
- Butchers	21	6	27
- Canteens	-	-	-
- Catering Establishments	12	2	14
	1489	410	1899

.....Continued

					Primary Visits	Re- Visits	Totals
			B/fwd.		1489	410	1899
Food Premises - Confectioners			6	2	8
- Fishmongers			5	-	5
- Food Preparing			1	-	1
- Bakehouses			-	-	-
- Fried Fish Shops		..			7	1	8
- Greengrocers			7	-	7
- Grocers		38	-	38
- Ice Cream Manufacturers					-	-	-
- Ice Cream Retailers		..			-	-	-
- Hawkers		2	-	2
- Licensed Premises		..			4	-	4
- Markets		13	1	14
- Sweets Shops			1	-	1
Ice Cream Sampling	-	-	-
Meat Inspection	1770	-	1770
Milk Sampling	42	3	45
Slaughterhouses	25	1	26
					3410	418	3828

In addition to the list of Public Health Inspectors' Visits 305 complaints regarding blocked drains and waste water closets have been dealt with by the Department.

WORK ACCOMPLISHED DURING THE YEAR

The following list of housing defects and nuisances were discovered, remedied and dealt with by serving of notice.

DWELLING HOUSE REPAIRS AND NUISANCES RECORDED IN JOURNAL (P.H.A.)

									Found	Abated
Roofs	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	4
Chimney stacks	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2
Eaves gutters	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	1
Rain water pipes	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1
Walls - structure	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14	6
Wall pointings	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	2
Yard surfacings	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Outbuildings	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Waste water closets defective	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15	13
Fresh water closets defective	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Drains	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	9
									51	41

Continued

Nuisances continued						<u>Found</u>	<u>Abated</u>
					B/fwd.	51	41
Ceilings	..	..	..	..	..	4	2
Wall plaster	..	..	..	..	..	5	1
Windows	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Doors	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
						<u>62</u>	<u>46</u>

NOTICES SERVED

Informal	..	..	..	..	..	38
Statutory	..	..	..	..	..	2

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Industrial Pollution

The level of smoke pollution from industrial sources is low and shows considerable change over the position appertaining prior to the Clean Air Act 1956. The most recent figures reveal that coal consumption now used by boilers is only 30% of the tonnage used in 1958, and the percentage quantity of fuels being 'fired' by systems tending to produce smoke is 9% as against 86%.

The following table gives the results of smoke observations taken during the year:

Total number of observations	..	..	..	..	8
Complying with the Regulations	..	..	..	..	4
Not complying with the Regulations	..	..	..	..	4

The Clean Air Act 1968 was passed during the year, although the earliest date of operation for certain provisions is 1st April 1969, and operative dates have not yet been determined for the remainder. When this report is published industry will be affected by new provisions relating to approval of new chimney heights or existing chimney heights where enlargement of combustion space is involved. Approval is divorced from Building Regulations, and the Chairman and Vice Chairman have been given delegated powers in this respect. Industrial concerns in the area have been notified of the new provisions which are aimed at securing a sufficiently high dispersal of flue gases so as to minimise ground level concentrations of sulphur dioxide.

Domestic Pollution

The need to establish smoke control areas in the town has been pressed for several years. Due to Rawtenstall not being designated in 1954 as a "black area" by reason of criteria which was based on insufficient information on pollution levels, this important public health and social subject has not received the priority it required. Financial considerations have been the main stumbling block, and not any reluctance by the Committee to admit the improvement obtained to the

environment by smoke control area procedure.

During the year the matter was again reviewed and the Finance Committee agreed to the financing of a programme over a fifteen year period. A detailed report on the creation of smoke control areas was submitted early in 1969 and the introductory letter to this report will briefly outline the position at the time the report is sent for printing.

The creation of smoke control areas is seen to be vital not only for the usually cited reasons, viz: the harmful effects to health and damage to buildings, metals and fabrics, the necessity for more laundering, cleaning, decorating, painting and housework, but it seems an essential part of the problem of urban renewal. The urgency of this work in North East Lancashire in particular has been stressed by the Impact Study Report which the Minister of Housing and Local Government commissioned in considering the new city proposed for Central Lancashire.

The authority is a member of the South East Lancashire and North Cheshire Consultative Committee for the investigation of Atmospheric Pollution, in which there are thirty-eight constituent local authorities represented.

Two volumetric instruments measuring amounts of smoke and sulphur dioxide in the atmosphere are situated, one at the Department's Office in the town centre, and the other on the first floor of the Hall Carr Co-operative Grocery Store. A third instrument is to be fitted at the Bacup and Rawtenstall Grammar School, Waterfoot in 1969.

The results of the air sampling apparatus and meteorological records are appended.

MONTHLY POLLUTION AVERAGES

MONTH	SMOKE		SULPHUR DIOXIDE		Measurements in microgrammes per cubic metre.
	Health Office	Hall Carr	Health Office	Hall Carr	
January	212	160	192	160	
February	198	194	228	179	
March	129	144	152	129	
April	96	106	138	110	
May	74	88	113	97	
June	42	43	81	71	
July	50	48	64	58	
August	38	29	60	44	
September	64	65	86	70	
October	115	120	145	114	
November	139	110	165	115	
December	176	151	218	155	
Annual					
Average daily pollution	111	105	137	109	

WEATHER CONDITIONS AND POLLUTION

(HEALTH OFFICE READINGS)

Meteorological Conditions	No. of days	Smoke	SO ₂	SMOKE in microgrammes per cubic metre			
				Average	Highest	Lowest	
Fog	7	356	421	111	503	6	
Clear	50	130	161				
Cloudy	79	127	144				
Rain (+.01")	17	105	135	SULPHUR DIOXIDE in mgrms/m ³			
Wet (+.04")	119	94	119	Average	Highest	Lowest	
RAINFALL IN INCHES				137	628	21	
				TEMPERATURE °F.			
Total	Highest Daily	Highest Monthly		Av. Max.	Highest	Av. Min.	Lowest
60.86"	2.91"	11.90"		54	84	41	14

Wind Direction	No. of days	Av. Smoke	Av. SO ₂	Wind Velocity	Force No.	No. of days	Av. Smoke	Av. SO ₂
N.E.	13	108	135	Light Air	1	36	129	173
E.	2	157	187	Light Breeze	2	114	127	156
S.W.	122	128	154	Gentle Breeze	3	83	96	144
W.	38	100	136	Moderate Wind	4	26	61	92
N.W.	97	115	145	Fresh Wind	5	7	48	60
				Strong Wind	6	6	86	98
				Moderate Gale	7	-	-	-
				Fresh Gale	8	-	-	-

DISINFESTATION

Advice and assistance is given to all occupiers of infested premises who seek our help. Treatment for householders is free if their co-operation can be secured, and the methods vary according to circumstances. The substances used also vary according to circumstances but include pyrethrum, D.D.T., lindane and dieldrin.

Treatment by the Department's staff has been undertaken in the following cases:

<u>Type of Premise</u>		<u>No. of Premises</u>	<u>No. of Rooms</u>
Wasps	- School	1	1
Cockroaches	- Domestic	48	67
"	- Schools	2	9
"	- Business	3	7
Fleas	- Domestic	1	4
Flies	- Domestic	2	2
Silver fish	- Domestic	4	6
Wasps	- Domestic	2	2
"	- Domestic (Gardens)	21	-
Plaster beetles	- Domestic	2	2
Bugs	- Domestic	1	1
Slugs	- Domestic	1	1

DISINFECTION

<u>Type of Premise</u>		<u>No. of Premises</u>	<u>No. of Rooms</u>
Tuberculosis	- Domestic	2	3
Other than Tuberculosis	- Domestic	7	24

SCHOOLS

There are 22 schools in the Borough and the following table sets out the general standard of sanitary arrangements. The Regulations referred to are based on the School Premises Amended Regulations.

Yard Surfaces unsatisfactory	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Sanitary Accommodation:							
Fresh water closets only	..	..	..	..	..	..	22
Trough closets only	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Refuse disposal by dustbins	..	..	..	..	..	..	22
Water Supply:							
Public mains	..	..	..	..	..	..	22
Private supplies	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Washing facilities unsatisfactory according to standard prescribed by Regulation	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Drinking facilities unsatisfactory	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil

The facilities for handling school meals were mainly satisfactory and a high standard of cleanliness was observed. Six schools prepare meals on their premises.

OFFENSIVE TRADES

There is only one tripe dresser in the Borough and this is visited periodically. The premises are satisfactory.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

The Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960, which brought into force a new licensing system for caravans, has two objects:

- (i) to control the location of caravan sites by seeking appropriate planning permission.
- (ii) to improve conditions on sites by requiring good standards of layout, equipment and maintenance.

This latter provision is governed by the issue of site licences by the local authority which are only issued if planning permission is obtained. A total of five licences have been issued to date subject to the necessary conditions.

RAG FLOCK

The Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act 1951 came into operation on the 1st November 1951, and the Act repeals the Rag Flock Acts of 1911, 1928. There are no licensed premises within the Borough, but three premises are registered as users of filling materials.

RODENT CONTROL

Considerable work was done during the year. One man is employed full time with extra assistance being furnished as required for sewer and river bank treatments. A free service is given to tenants of domestic property, but a charge is made for the treatment of business and farm premises.

Surface Infestations

The following summary sets out the work carried out to deal with surface infestations. The figures show a slight increase in the number of treatments carried out compared with the previous year. All infestations were of a minor nature.

	<u>Type of Property</u>	
	<u>Non-</u>	<u>Agricultural</u>
<u>Properties other than sewers</u>	<u>Agricultural</u>	<u>Agricultural</u>
1. Number of properties in district	11,240	145
2. a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	445	1

		<u>Type of Property</u>	
		<u>Non-Agricultural</u>	<u>Agricultural</u>
2.	b) Number infested by (i) Rats	144	1
	(ii) Mice	193	-
3.	Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	2	-
	Number infested by (i) Rats	1	-
	(ii) Mice	-	-

Sewer Treatment

The sewers in the town were treated once during the year. During the treatment only nine manholes were revealed to be infested. It is maintained that the satisfactory results have been due to the adoption in 1956 of the extended baiting technique.

	<u>Test Baiting</u>	<u>Treatment</u>	
		<u>First</u>	<u>Second</u>
No. of manholes in sewerage system	2,382	2,382	-
No. of manholes baited	402	67	-
No. of manholes showing 'takes'	25	9	-
No. of manholes showing nil 'takes'	377	58	-

PET ANIMALS ACT 1951

The above Act which came into operation on the 1st April 1952 seeks to control the conditions under which pet animals are kept for sale. All primary inspections were carried out in conjunction with the local inspector of the R.S.P.C.A. One premise is licenced under the above Act.

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT 1963

The above Act regulates the keeping of boarding establishments for animals and for purposes connected therewith. All primary inspections are carried out in conjunction with the local inspector of the R.S.P.C.A. Two applications for licences were received and granted.

FACTORIES ACT 1961

	<u>No. of Register</u>	<u>No. of Inspections</u>	<u>No. of Notices</u>
Factories in which Sections 1,2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	-	-	-
Factories not included above to which Section 7 applies	154	-	-
Other premises to which Section 7 applies	10	1	-
	<hr/> 164	<hr/> 1	<hr/> -

DEFECTS FOUND

	<u>Found</u>	<u>Remedied</u>	<u>Referred to H.M. Inspector</u>	<u>by H.M. Inspector</u>
<u>Sanitary Conveniences</u>				
Unsuitable or defective	1	1	-	1

OUTWORKERS

In accordance with Section 133 (1) (c) of the Factories Act 1961 notifications on the August list were received from eight factory occupiers in the Borough that sixty-seven outworkers were employed in classes of work specified by Order. This shows an increase of fifty-nine outworkers on last year. These were largely connected with the slipper industry. In eleven cases, where the outworkers carried on work outside the Borough, the appropriate local authorities were informed.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

REGISTRATIONS AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS

Class of premise (1)	Number of premises registered during the year (2)	Total number of registered premises at the end of the year (3)	Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year (4)
Offices	3	54	6
Retail shops	3	130	39
Wholesale shops, warehouses	-	6	3
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	1	15	5
Fuel storage depots	-	-	-
TOTALS	7	205	53

NUMBER OF VISITS OF ALL KINDS BY INSPECTORS TO REGISTERED PREMISES - 63

ANALYSIS OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN REGISTERED PREMISES BY WORKPLACE

Class of workplace (1)	Number of persons employed (2)
Offices	249
Retail shops	417
Wholesale departments, warehouses	31
Catering establishments open to the public	65
Canteens	-
Fuel storage depots	-
Total	762
Total Males	337
Total Females	425

EXEMPTIONS

Nil.

PROSECUTIONS

Nil.

INSPECTORS

Number of inspectors appointed under section 52 (1)
or (5) of the Act 4

Number of other staff employed for most of their
time on work in connection with the Act Nil

NARRATIVE

Inspections

All registered premises have received at least one general inspection, and one or more re-inspections have taken place at premises where contraventions have been noted. It is programmed to carry out a general inspection of all premises at least every 2 - 3 years, although premises controlled by other public health legislation (e.g. food premises etc.) will be inspected more frequently. By the end of 1968 87% of the 1061 contraventions recorded since the inception of the various requirements were rectified. All outstanding work requiring the employment of some form of contractor was in hand, and some difficulty was experienced in pressing contractors to complete the work. The majority of the outstanding contraventions were of a minor character, e.g. loss or absence of a thermometer, failure to post up the requisite information for employees, etc., and these omissions were due mostly to oversight.

Notifications of accidents

The continuing absence of accident notification continued to give some concern. The local press gave assistance in giving publicity to the subject in a special article in June. The view was expressed that it was believed that locally occupiers affected by the Act did not appreciate the necessity to report accidents. The article gave illustrations culled from the last report published by the Ministry of Labour as to the types of accidents which can occur, and how they can be avoided. The press publicity was followed up by a letter to occupiers of registered premises written on similar lines. An approach was also made to the Regional Office of the Union of Shop Distributive and Allied Workers requesting them to assist in publicising this subject amongst their members, and also in connection with reporting any sub-standard working conditions which have not been brought to light during the inspections.

The table over-leaf gives the number of premises at which particular contraventions were noted, the number of contraventions recorded, and the contraventions found to have been remedied during 1968.

NATURE OF DEFECT OR CONTRAVENTION

							<u>Premises</u>	<u>Found</u>	<u>Premises</u>	<u>Abated</u>
Cleanliness	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	18	27
Overcrowding	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-	-
Temperature	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	10	10
Ventilation	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	2	2
Lighting	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	2	2
Sanitary Conveniences	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	4	33	48
Washing Facilities	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	3	10	12
Accommodation for Clothing	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	2	2
Seats for Sedentary Work	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-	-
Floors, Passages and Stairs	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	18	35
First Aid, General Provisions	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	17	17
Thermometers	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	14	16
Information for Employees	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	30	30
Regulation for Securing Health and Safety	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	1	1
								<u>12</u>		<u>202</u>

The following table which accumulates the totals of 1965, 1966, 1967 and 1968 virtually provides a balance sheet showing the progress which has been made towards full compliance with requirements. Broadly 87% of the original contraventions noted have been remedied, and it is known that much other work is in contractors' hands.

NATURE OF DEFECT OR CONTRAVENTION

							<u>Premises</u>	<u>Found</u>	<u>Premises</u>	<u>Abated</u>
Cleanliness	-	162	-	133
Overcrowding	-	2	-	2
Temperature	-	47	-	40
Ventilation	-	8	-	8
Lighting	-	27	-	20
Sanitary Conveniences	-	245	-	203
Washing facilities	-	92	-	82
Accommodation for Clothing	-	11	-	8
Floors, Passages and Stairs	-	124	-	114
Regulations for Securing Health and Safety	-	2	-	2
First Aid, General Provisions	-	113	-	106
Information for Employees	-	113	-	100
Thermometers	-	114	-	106
Seats for Sedentary Work	-	1	-	1
								<u>1061</u>		<u>925</u>

NOISE ABATEMENT ACT 1960

Although it was unnecessary to investigate any complaints of noise nuisance general dissatisfaction was felt with noise levels produced by pneumatic road drills, air compressors etc. After consultation with Departments responsible for public works contracts the Council resolved to embody a clause in such contracts restricting the periods when drills and other equipment should be used, and a stipulation made that equipment should be integrally or otherwise fitted with noise suppression devices. All statutory undertakers who are at present exempted by law from the relevant provisions of the Act were also written to seeking their co-operation in the fitting of silencers. The response made was considered to be satisfactory.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

In the light of the Government's Working Party Report on refuse storage and collection published in 1967, a comprehensive review was taken of the town's Cleansing Services. Existing standards were compared with those recommended in the Report, and the Sub-Committee considered the matter in detail. Several improvements to existing practices and schemes were made.

REFUSE STORAGE

The rate borne municipal bin scheme continued in its fifth year to work satisfactorily. Following review of the Report mentioned above the scheme was extended from one of renewal of one bin per premise as a bin became defective to cover provision of bins for new houses, and, where justifiable, not to limit renewal or supply of one bin per household. The scheme, therefore, now becomes fully comprehensive. During the year 576 dustbins and 567 rubber lids were supplied by the Department, and of these 478 dustbins and 489 rubber lids were supplied under the scheme at a cost of slightly less than a $\frac{1}{2}$ d. rate.

The issue of paper sacks at holiday periods to meet temporary storage difficulties continued to function satisfactorily. About 25% of householders in the town avail themselves of this service which, in addition to facilitating the principle of a same day collection service, reduced the usual complaints following holiday periods to very small numbers. The paper sack system was also used to meet temporary collection disturbances due to road repairs etc. The two latest Council house projects, involving some 240 houses, are also served by paper sacks with holders affixed to the ledge of an outward opening door enclosing a brick compartment large enough to accommodate two sacks.

Experimental work is also to proceed with the use of bin liners, and the replacement of dustbins by paper sacks where such storage arrangements are of difficult access.

REFUSE COLLECTION

Difficulties continue in the recruitment of suitable labour, although the payment of certain bonuses when teams were depleted enabled the continuance of

a weekly refuse collection service. The free service provided for the removal of bulky household refuse, including furniture, continued to be in increasing demand. Again, following study of the Report, collection arrangements for garden refuse and "do it yourself" building work were clarified, and it was agreed to remove, free of charge, reasonable amounts of such refuse. However, extraordinary amounts of garden refuse or building refuse in excess of 5 cwts. would be collected on a payment basis.

Domestic and trade refuse is collected by three teams with a performance of 120 bins per man per day, operating on a stint system. A separate collection of waste paper from shops and offices is made by a fourth vehicle which also deals with the bulky refuse collection service. The average length of haul to tip for the larger vehicle is $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles, as against $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles for the smaller vehicle.

A tightening up was made of the arrangements produced by the advanced preparation of bins awaiting collection, and generally the employees co-operated satisfactorily in the new arrangements.

The number of working days lost due to sickness and injury amounted to 573, or the labour of two men over the year.

CIVIC AMENITIES ACT 1967

The above Act and relevant regulations, so far as they relate to unlawfully deposited rubbish, came into operation on the 24th August 1967.

In 1968 this authority designated Meadow Head Tip as the refuse disposal centre where people may take their refuse as required by the Act, and full publicity was given to the arrangements. This provision was considered adequate, particularly having regard to facilities which are available for the free collection of bulky discards.

No formal action was taken during 1968 regarding unauthorised dumping, but the clearance of many sites in the Borough is a problem which will have to be faced in the future if amenities are to be improved. It is virtually impossible to find the culprits of unauthorised dumping, and the clearance of the various sites in the town will prove costly and could disorganize existing transport and labour arrangements. The possible use of voluntary workers could be explored.

The duty to remove apparently abandoned motor vehicles came into operation on the 27th January 1968 and became mandatory six months later.

The previous private arrangements made with a local car dismantling firm were successfully continued in the administration of the new provisions.

Ninety-eight visits were paid by your Inspectors under the Act, mainly in connection with the abandonment of vehicles. Twenty-five abandoned vehicles were removed, fourteen of which necessitated use of the statutory procedure.

The type and age of the vehicles operated are as follows:

<u>Type of vehicle</u>	<u>Year Purchased</u>	<u>Reg. No.</u>
S. & D. Fore and Aft Tipper 16/18c yard capacity, and loaders cab (Used as a standby)	1958	435 DTC
S. & D. Fore and Aft Tipper 12c yard capacity, and loaders cab	1962	507 XTB
Karrier Bantam 10c yard capacity	1962	687 TE
S. & D. TZ Type Fore and Aft Tipper 25c yard capacity, and loaders cab	1964	HTF 522B
S. & D. Fore and Aft Tipper 25c yard capacity, and loaders cab	1968	KTD 886F

A 20 cubic yard S. & D. Pakamatic vehicle was ordered during the year following a successful demonstration. When this vehicle is in operation in July 1969 all vehicles on the refuse collection districts will be provided with compression devices so as to meet the difficulties produced by the increasing bulkiness of refuse.

REFUSE DISPOSAL

Tipping was continued on the 9.4 acres of land which has been leased on the westerly side of the old Meadow Head tip. The proposed scheme of tipping which has received planning approval is expected to be spread over 10 - 12 years in two stages, provides for re-soiling and seeding on completion, and reversion back as a level plateau to agricultural use. A Weatherill Hydraulic Mechanical Shovel operates on the tip and was replaced by a new model during the year.

To supplement the free collection service of bulky articles and to discourage people from indiscriminate tipping, a free disposal service was offered for loads up to one ton in bulk. The number of loads tipped was as follows:

Refuse	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,102
Sweepings	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	204
Gully Material	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	288
Various	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	273

SALVAGE

The weight of waste paper collected and sold for salvage was 216 tons 11 cwt. 3 q. which brought in an income of £1,758 10s. A salvage bonus is payable to the men for this work and £388 3s. was paid out in this connection.

PAIL CLOSETS

The mechanical gully emptier is hired from the Highways Department on one day per week for the emptying of 82 pails provided at unsewered property.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

There are eight ladies' and gentlemen's public conveniences and eight urinals. Malicious damage continued to cause appreciable expenditure in repairs. New conveniences are due to be opened adjacent to the new shopping centre during 1969.

: : : : : : : :

S E C T I O N E

HOUSING

NEW HOUSES

Number of new housing erected during the year:

	<u>Houses</u>	<u>Flats and Bungalows</u>
(a) By the local authority	60	36
(b) By other local authorities	-	-
(c) By other bodies or persons	32	1

INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES

Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 81

Number of inspections made for the above purpose 229

Number of dwelling houses unfit for human habitation and not capable, at reasonable expense, of being rendered fit:

(a) Number found during the year 24

(b) Number at end of the year 1040

Number of dwelling houses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation but capable of being rendered fit 40

CLEARANCE AREAS AND UNFIT HOUSES

A. HOUSES DEMOLISHED

In Clearance Areas (Housing Act 1957)

	<u>Houses Demolished</u>	<u>Displaced Persons</u>	<u>Families</u>
(1) Houses unfit for human habitation	196	142	70
(2) Houses included by reasons of bad arrangement etc.	8	14	5
(3) Houses on land acquired under Section 43 (2)	9	10	4

<u>Not in Clearance Areas</u>	<u>Houses</u>	<u>Displaced</u>	
	<u>Demolished</u>	<u>Persons</u>	<u>Families</u>
(4) As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 17 (1)	10	5	2
(5) Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by Medical Officer of Health	-	-	-
(6) Houses unfit for human habitation where action has been taken under Local Acts	-	-	-
(7) Unfit houses included in Unfitness Orders	-	-	-

B. UNFIT HOUSES CLOSED (Housing Act 1957)

	<u>Number</u>	<u>Displaced</u>	
		<u>Persons</u>	<u>Families</u>
(8) Under Sections 16(4), 17(1), 35(1)	22	42	19
(9) Under Sections 17(3) and 26	-	-	-
(10) Parts of buildings closed under Section 18	-	-	-

C. UNFIT HOUSES MADE FIT AND HOUSES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE REMEDIED

	<u>By Owner</u>	<u>By Local Authority</u>
(11) After informal action by local authority	28	-
(12) After formal notices under:		
(a) Public Health Acts	-	2
(b) Sections 9 and 16 Housing Act 1957	-	-
(13) Under Section 24 Housing Act 1957	-	-

D. UNFIT HOUSES IN TEMPORARY USE (Housing Act 1957)

	<u>No. of houses</u>	<u>No. of separate dwellings</u>
Retained for temporary accommodation under Section 48	19	19

E. PURCHASE OF HOUSES BY AGREEMENT

	<u>No. of houses</u>	<u>No. of occupants</u>
Houses in Clearance Areas other than those included in confirmed Clearance Orders or Compulsory Purchase Orders purchased during the year	1	2

HOUSING ACT 1949, AND HOUSING (FINANCIAL PROVISIONS) ACT 1958

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

<u>Action during year:</u>	<u>No. of dwelling houses or other buildings affected in schemes of:</u>	
	<u>Private bodies or individuals</u>	<u>Local Authority</u>
(a) By private individuals to L.A. 	11	-
(b) Finally approved by L.A. 	7	-
(c) Submitted by L.A. to Ministry 	-	-
(d) Finally approved by Ministry 	-	-
(e) Work completed 	5	34

HOUSE PURCHASE AND HOUSING ACT 1959, AND HOUSING ACTS 1961 & 1964 STANDARD GRANTS

<u>Action during year:</u>	<u>No. of Dwelling Houses affected</u>
(a) Applications submitted to L.A. for improvement to full standard 	102
(b) Applications submitted to L.A. for improvement to reduced standard	-
(c) Applications approved by L.A. for improvement to full standard 	87
(d) Applications approved by L.A. for improvement to reduced standard	-
(e) Work completed 	73

GENERAL

During the year a re-appraisal was undertaken, in association with other chief officers of the Council, of the housing requirements in the Borough. This mainly resulted from evidence which was available that by 1972 there would be a surplus of three-bedroomed Council dwellings and a shortage of one bedroomed dwellings. Consideration was also given to the financial implications of proposed legislation concerning the increased compensation to be paid to owners of property affected by clearance proposals. Decisions to curtail the Council house building programme, and schemes to convert and improve certain existing Council houses are outside the purview of this report. However, the decisions made which affected the previous policies and programmes which the Health Department were undertaking included the following matters.

The plan to deal with slum clearance areas at the rate of 200 houses per year, which was estimated to be completed by 1970 so far as representation was concerned, followed by a 'back-to-back' conversion and improvement programme to be completed by 1974, is to be altered. The slum clearance programme is now to be dealt with at a rate of 100 houses per year, and the back-to-back conversion programme is to be carried out simultaneously. It is estimated that back-to-back schemes could be completed by 1974/1975.

It was also agreed to carry out a postal survey of the population and housing needs of persons residing in houses which are likely to be affected by clearance or improvement proposals.

The following statistical review sets out the housing standards of all property in the town based on information so far available in the Department, and gives the progress made in the clearance and improvement of property which formed the main basis of a twenty year plan I submitted in 1954.

										No. of houses
A. <u>Broad classification of property in the town at the end of 1968</u>										
<u>Property of satisfactory standard</u>										
(a)	Older houses (Section B, 1b and 1c)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2145
(b)	Council houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2722
(c)	Pre and post war private detached and semi-detached houses									
	(approx)									<u>900</u>
										5767
<u>Property of unsatisfactory standard for future action</u>										
(a)	Probable for clearance (Section B, 2a and 2c)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	835
(b)	Probable for improvement (Section B, 2b and 2d)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	<u>1583</u>
										2418
<u>Property in isolated rural areas, mainly farm cottages unlikely for action in foreseeable future</u>										
									(Approx)	<u>200</u>
	Total houses	..								<u>8385</u>
B. <u>Progress in the clearance and improvement of older property at the end of 1968</u>										
1. <u>Action completed</u>										
(a)	Clearance programmes (238 await re-housing and/or demolition)									1560
(b)	Back-to-back improvement programme									
	(including associated 'throughs')	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	226
(c)	Older terraced properties with full standard amenities									
	(new standard applied)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	<u>1919</u>
										<u>3705</u>
2. <u>Outstanding</u>										
(a)	Clearance programme (1969 - 1975)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	612
(b)	Back-to-back improvement programme									
	(including associated 'throughs') 1969 - 1975	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	<u>341</u>
										953
(c)	Residue property for further detailed examination after 1975									
	(probably the majority for clearance)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	223
(d)	Older terraced properties requiring provision of some amenities	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	<u>1242</u>
										<u>2418</u>

C. Standard and ownership of the older terraced property in the town not included in clearance or improvement programmes

	<u>Owner occupied</u>	<u>Rented</u>	<u>Total</u>
(a) <u>Up to standard</u> (i.e. not including ventilated food store)	1787 (66%)	132 (28%)	1919 (61%)
(b) <u>Not up to standard</u>			
(i) With bathroom and few deficiencies (Majority lacking internal W.C. only)	375	57	432
(ii) Without bathroom and other amenities	<u>530</u>	<u>280</u>	<u>810</u>
	<u>905 (34%)</u>	<u>337 (72%)</u>	<u>1242 (39%)</u>
Total of (a) and (b)	<u>2692 (85%)</u>	<u>469 (15%)</u>	<u>3161</u>

The following comments on these statistics may be made.

Section A.

Although the overall figure of houses reveals more of satisfactory standard, i.e. possessing modern amenities of hot and cold water, bath, internal W.C. etc., there are still fewer older houses up to standard than not. The percentage of Council houses is fairly high, whilst private 'modern' houses are comparatively low.

Section B.

It is considered that satisfactory progress has been made in the past fifteen years with the clearance and improvement of back-to-back houses. It seems reasonable to expect that the proposed clearance and improvement programmes outlined previously should be capable of realisation. At the time of writing the report re-housing from outstanding clearance areas has been reduced considerably. Outstanding demolitions have also been substantially reduced.

Section C.

Property reviewed in this section will constitute the future potential improvement areas which will, it is expected, be the subject of new legislation when this report is submitted. It will be seen that 66% of owner-occupied property, and only 28% rented property are already up to standard. The preponderance of owner-occupied property of this type (85% in total) brings the overall figure to 61% of the property up to standard. It is anticipated the new improvement areas will also concentrate on effecting improvements to the external environment, e.g. improving traffic flows, landscaping and the creation of play areas etc.

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At the end of the year there were 454 applicants for Council houses, and schemes at present on the drawing board include a further 19 houses, flats and bungalows, and the conversion of 96 houses into flats. There were no cases of overcrowding occurring in Council houses during the year.

S E C T I O N F.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

MILK SUPPLY

The supervision of milk production on farms is the responsibility of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. Local authorities are still responsible for many important duties connected with milk distribution, including the sampling of milk after it leaves the farm. They also possess the powers for prevention of infection of milk, and duties in connection with water supply, sewage disposal and housing at farm and dairy premises.

The Milk (Special Designation) Regulations 1963 - 1965 govern the designations which may be applied to milk. Milk which is not subject to some form of heat treatment is now designated "untreated milk", whilst the treated milks embrace "sterilised, pasteurised and ultra heat treated milks".

There are 25 producer retailers of untreated milk in the Borough, and 86 registered distributors of milk operating in the district under the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations 1959. The following table details the number and results of samples taken during the year.

	No. of Samples	<u>Results</u>		No Results
		No. Positive	No. Negative	
<u>Raw Milk - Tuberculin Tested</u>				
(a) Tuberculosis biological test	11	-	11	-
(b) Brucella Abortus, Ring test	163	51	112	-
(c) Brucella Abortus, Culture test	50	9	41	-
(d) Brucella Abortus, Biological test	7	2	3	2
	No. of Samples	No. satis- factory	No. unsatis- factory	No Results
<u>Pasteurised Milk</u>				
(a) Phosphatase test	1	1	-	-
(b) Methylene blue reduction test	1	1	-	-
<u>Sterilised Milk</u>				
(a) Turbidity test	1	1	-	-
<u>Ultra Heat Treated Milk</u>				
(a) U.H.T. Colony count	-	-	-	-

The Department continued to pay special attention to the incidence of brucella infection in local milk supplies. The twenty-five local producer retailers and seven outside producer retailers vending in the Borough were all sampled at least twice by the Department and once by the County Council who inform us of adverse results. Additional samples were collected from producer

retailers having infected milk in recent years, and individual cow samples were taken to trace infected animals where the bulk sample proved positive.

163 samples of milk were sent for examination and 4 infected herds were discovered. In three of the herds individual cow samples revealed 9 infected cows, all of which were sent for slaughter.

There is excellent co-operation with local farmers under these arrangements, and the majority are very anxious to remove infections from their herds. There is appreciable evidence that the infectivity in the herds has improved during the years, and many herds now contain a majority of cows giving negative ring test results.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

There were several contacts with Veterinary Officers engaged by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food who periodically visit slaughtering facilities to assist in raising hygiene standards and attaining uniformity of administration arranged by various authorities. The Department continued its monthly detailed inspections and reports on each slaughterhouse to supplement the day to day visits for meat inspection purposes.

The scale of charges for meat inspection was again reviewed, and it was decided to retain the charges as fixed. The rates are as follows: cattle 2/0d., calves 6d., pigs 6d., and sheep 4d. The expenditure incurred on meat inspection by way of salaries, transport etc. is more than the income derived from the charges.

For the first time for several years there was a reduction in the total number of carcasses slaughtered during the year. However, this was confined to sheep and lamb carcasses, whilst the number of bovine carcasses killed showed some increase.

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MEAT INSPECTION RECORD SUMMARY

	Cattle excl. Cows	Cows	Calves	Pigs	Sheep and Lambs
No. of animals killed	4278	1229	71	1122	25,213
No. of animals inspected	4278	1229	71	1122	25,213
<u>All Diseases except T.B.</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	2	2	1	10
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned	2202	1025	3	619	8,368
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than T.B.	51.4%	83.5%	7.0%	55.2%	33.2%
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned	1	-	-	3	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with tuberculosis	0.02%	-	-	0.26%	-
<u>Cysticercosis only</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted for treat- ment by refrigeration	3	-	-	-	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with cysticercosis	0.07%	-	-	-	-

ANALYSIS OF CONDEMNATIONS

Disease Classification	Entire Carcases	Part Carcase	Head	Lungs	Heart	Skirt	Liver	Part Liver	Spleen	Kidneys	Stomach	Intestine	Udders	Tails	Weight of Meat - lbs.
<u>Cattle</u> (5,507 inspected)															
T.B.	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other than T.B.	2	12	17	127	11	3	950	2287	5	29	15	3	99	2	930
<u>Calves</u> (71 inspected)															
T.B.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other than T.B.	2	1	2	5	2	2	2	-	2	5	2	2	2	2	280
<u>Sheep</u> (25,212 inspected)															
T.B.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other than T.B.	10	11	10	1668	10	10	1928	6349	10	20	10	10	11	10	366
<u>Pigs</u> (1,122 inspected)															
T.B.	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other than T.B.	1	1	1	595	13	1	27	113	1	3	2	2	3	1	77

WEIGHT OF MEAT AND OFFAL CONDEMNED

<u>Disease Except T.B.</u>		<u>Tuberculosis only</u>	
<u>Weight of Meat lbs.</u>	<u>Weight of Offal lbs.</u>	<u>Weight of Meat lbs.</u>	<u>Weight of Offal lbs.</u>
<u>1,653</u>	<u>38,618</u>	-	<u>40</u>

REASONS FOR CONDEMNATION OF WHOLE CARCASES

Disease	Cattle.	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Pyæmia	-	-	1	-
Oedema	-	-	2	-
Emaciation	1	1	1	-
Moribund	-	-	-	1
Pneumonia	-	-	1	-
Immaturity	-	1	-	-
Anasarca	1	-	2	-
Bruising	-	-	3	-

Post Mortem Data Concerning Cysticercosis

<u>Cyst Location</u>	<u>No. of Cases</u>	<u>No. of Cysts</u>	<u>Type of Cyst</u>	
			<u>Viable</u>	<u>Non-viable</u>
Head only	2	2	2	-
Head and heart	1	3	-	3

Two applications for licences to slaughter or stun cattle, sheep and pigs under the provision of the Slaughter of Animals Act 1958 were granted during the year.

Nineteen inspections were also made for the purpose of inspecting food at retailer's premises, and the following articles were rejected:-

Fruit tinned	22 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.	Pastry frozen	6 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
Vegetables tinned	15 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.	Pies frozen	11 lbs.
Pudding tinned	8 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs.	Meat frozen	71 lbs.
Meat tinned	244 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs.	Fish frozen	125 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
Fish tinned	1 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs.	Vegetables frozen	50 lbs.
Cream tinned	$\frac{3}{4}$ lb.	Cream sponge cakes frozen	6
Milk tinned	3 $\frac{1}{4}$ pints	Yorkshire puddings frozen	10
Meat	20 lbs.	Cornish Pasties frozen	6

FOOD PREMISES

One hundred and thirtyseven inspections of food premises were carried out. Informal notices were served upon the persons concerned when defects were found as follows:

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1955, FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 1960

NATURE OF DEFECT OR CONTRAVENTION

	<u>Premises</u>	<u>Found</u>	<u>Premises</u>	<u>Abated</u>
Cleanliness of Equipment	-	-	20	32
Food to be protected from risk of contamination	-	-	27	28
Personal Cleanliness	-	-	5	5
Sanitary Conveniences	-	-	15	21
Wash hand basins to be provided	1	2	17	19
First Aid Materials to be provided	1	1	11	11
Accommodation for Clothing etc.	1	1	6	6
Facilities for washing food and equipment	-	-	6	6
Lighting of food rooms	-	-	8	10
Cleanliness and repair etc. of food rooms	1	2	38	102
Accumulation of refuse etc.	-	-	2	4
Temperature at which certain foods are to be kept	-	-	5	5
General requirements as to stalls and vehicles	-	-	1	3
Water supply to be provided	-	-	2	2
Ventilation of food rooms	-	-	2	2
		<u>6</u>		<u>256</u>

The number of food premises, by type of business, in the district at the end of the year was as follows:-

Type of business	No. of premises	No. of premises fitted to comply with Reg. 16 (Wash-hand basin)	No. of premises to which Reg. 19 applies (Sinks)	No. of premises fitted to comply with Reg. 19
1. Grocers and provision dealers	. 92	92	81	81
2. Greengrocers and fruiterers (inc. those selling wet fish, game etc)	.. 19	19	19	19
3. Fishmongers (inc. those selling poultry, game etc)	.. 1	1	1	1
4. Meat shops (butchers, purveyors of cooked and preserved meats, tripe etc.)	.. 30	30	30	30
5. Bakers and/or confectioners	.. 21	21	21	21
6. Fried fish shops	.. 16	16	16	16
7. Shops selling mainly sugar confectionery, minerals, ice-cream etc.	.. 17	17	5	5
8. Licensed premises, clubs, canteens, restaurants, cafes, snack bars and similar catering establishments	.. 64	64	64	64
9. Others	.. 3	3	3	3

ICE CREAM

There are two manufacturers of ice-cream in the Borough, both of whom use the hot-mix method. In only one instance is the production carried out on a large scale. The other is a small trader and shopkeeper manufacturing for his own requirements. The details of registration at the end of the year were as follows:

	<u>Hot Mix</u>	<u>Cold Mix</u>
1. Manufacturing retailers	2	-
2. Retailers only	89	-
	<u>91</u>	<u>-</u>

Generally speaking, inspection of the ice-cream premises revealed that the relevant Acts and Regulations, together with the adopted Lancashire County Council's Codes of Practice, were being satisfactorily observed.

FOOD AND DRUGS ADULTERATION

The Lancashire County Council undertake the sampling of food for quality, assistance being rendered by this Department as required. Doctor S. C. Gawne, County Medical Officer of Health, has kindly furnished the following information:

A total of 112 samples was obtained comprising 61 milks (of which one was a Channel Islands milk) and 51 others as follows:-

2 Pickles	1 Edrisal Tablets
2 Lard	1 Doridan Tablets
1 Butter	4 Soft Drink
1 Dried Vegetables	1 Apples, canned
1 Soft Drink, canned	1 Fruit, canned
1 Shandy, canned	1 Honey
1 Rose Hip Syrup	1 Apple Sauce, Sweetened
1 Headache Powders	1 Breadcrumbs
1 Liquid Paraffin B.P.	1 Nut Mix
1 Tincture of Iodine B.P.	1 Garlic
1 Sterilised Cream	1 Caraway Seeds
2 Dried Vegetables	1 Pineapple Grapefruit Drink, canned
1 Pain Relief Tablets	1 Skimmed Milk, Non-Fat
1 Cheese	1 Table Jelly
1 Soup, canned	1 Condensed Milk, Full Cream, Unsweetened
2 Tomato Juice, canned	1 Steak and Kidney Pie
1 Cocktail Peanuts	1 Pork Pie
1 Malt and Cocoa Beverage	1 Aspirin Tablets
1 Fish, canned	1 Jam
1 Nembutal Capsules	1 Dried Fruit
1 Daprisal Capsules	1 Pudding, canned
	2 Vegetables, canned

Following are the details of samples on which the County Analyst gave adverse reports:-

<u>Type of Sample</u>	<u>Result of Analysis</u>	<u>Action Taken</u>
Formal milk	Contained antibiotic or other bacteriostat equivalent to 0.2 International Unit per ml and slightly low in solids-not-fat.	Producer cautioned
Fish, canned	Contained a cooked fly 9 millimetres long and weighing 33 milligrams, of the family Calliphoridae and genus Lucilia. The genus contains many species of "greenbottles" and is probably of world wide distribution.	Importers cautioned and complainant informed

<u>Type of Sample</u>	<u>Result of Analysis</u>	<u>Action Taken</u>
Informal milk	Fat 3.40%. Deficient 15% fat.	Formal sample obtained.
Fruit, canned	Contained 360 parts per million of tin. Recommended maximum limit 250 parts per million.	Further samples from same stock obtained.
Informal milk	The piece of glass submitted with this sample weighed 2 milligrams and could have passed through the pastic drinking straw. The milk itself was free from glass and was of good quality.	Dairy cautioned.
Soft drink	Contained saccharin 0.07% and cyclamate (expressed as cylamic acid) 0.3% (equivalent to 490 and 2,100 grains per 10 galls. respectively). Maximum permitted artificial sweeteners 280 grains/ten galls. saccharin and 4,666 grains/ten galls. cyclamic acid such that when present together the amounts individually expressed as percentages of the maximum permissible amounts together do not exceed 100% (i.e. Saccharin 175% of maximum permitted, Cyclamic acid 45% of maximum permitted). Therefore sample contains 125% artificial sweetener in excess of the maximum permitted.	Manufacturer communicated with.
Vegetables, canned	Contained 320 parts per million of tin. Recommended maximum limit 250 parts per million.	Further sample obtained.

DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACT

Functions with regard to the above Act, which are administered by the Health Committee, are carried out by the Police. I am indebted to Superintendent R. Boyack for details of the work carried out by his officers during 1968.

A total of 289 Movement Licences were issued - (mainly under Foot and Mouth Disease Regulations), and 6 visits were made to slaughterhouses etc. for the examination of animal movement records.

MORTUARY

During the year 88 bodies were dealt with by the Police at the Public Mortuary.

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